

for all the brain-working professions of its time
 Some may regret this limitation, but the practical man will
 see in it a great opportunity " He also sees it as a great
 and developing post-graduate centre " A University is, or ought
 to be, much more than a mere place for teaching Its most
 important function in the State is the advancement of
 every branch of learning " Before London, there lies a hard
 task—"the slow, hard and perhaps unlovely task of clearing
 the ground"
 The realisation of dreams may be very slow in
 coming

"Innovators and reformers, having great ideals
 and a high standard, sometimes make the mistake of
 thinking that, even from the outset, nothing less than the best is
 admissible "

In phrasing, as in substance in its quiet
 negativism, and serene underlying optimism, based on inflexible
 resolution, this little sentence is as characteristic of the
 man who wrote it as any he has ever penned Great
 ideals, and a high standard, he had both for the London
 schools and for the London University but, in either case, he
 was ready to make a beginning with something " less than
 the best," just because he knew that, once a spot of firm
 ground established, he could, and would, build on from
 it, like the beaver Not casually, therefore, has the
 beaver been taken as the sign and symbol of the other great
 London educational enterprise of which he has been
 parent and fostering nurse—the London School of
 Economics

In a reminiscent passage in which various
 "Webb myths"
 are killed, and no authentic doctrine or story of
 a personal

kind is supplied to take their place, the
founder of the
School says that it started, in 1895,
"in two small hired rooms in John Street,
Adelphi, destitute
even of a promise of endowment, without professor
or students,
and devoid of any visible chance of academic
status "

How even this was made possible, he does not
tell us and
in view of his denunciation of myth about it,
one has to
walk warily but it is at least generally
believed that a